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Case Summary

Case Number:

C 0400286

Case Caption:

STATE OF OHIO vs. JAMES DERRICK ONEAL

Judge:

Unavailable

Filed Date:

5/7/2004

Case Type:

A105 - NOTICE OF APPEAL - CRIMINAL - POVERTY AFFIDAVIT

Total Deposits:

\$ 0.00

Total Costs:

\$62.00

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Case Documents

Party/Attorney Information

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Amount

Case History

Doc	Image#	Date	Description	į
=		8/20/2004	NOTICE OF ORDER OR JUDGMENT SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL TO ALL PARTIES REQUIRED BY LAW.	
Ů	57	8/13/2004	ENTRY OF DISMISSAL APPEAL BY AGREEMENT AND WITHOUT PREJUDICE AND REMANDING CASE TO TRIAL COURT FOR EVIDENTIARY HEARING B-9309022	
-		6/22/2004	TRANSCRIPT OF DOCKET AND JOURNAL ENTRIES FILED	
		6/22/2004	NOTICE OF FILING OF RECORD INCLUDING TRANCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS MAILED TO JOHN J. GIDEON, MICHAEL W. KRUMHOLTZ, MICHAEL K. ALLEN AND PHILIP R. CUMMINGS	
=		5/24/2004	NOTICE OF ORDER OR JUDGMENT SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL TO ALL PARTIES REQUIRED BY LAW.	
7	25	5/20/2004	ACCELERATED CALENDAR SCHEDULING ORDER, ENTERED. 06/29/04 RECORD DUE. 08/12/04 APPELLANT'S BRIEF DUE. 09/28/04 APPELLEE'S BRIEF DUE.	
		5/7/2004	COMMON PLEAS TRIAL COURT # B-9309022	
		5/7/2004	COPY SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL TO HAMILTON COUNTY PROSECUTOR	
3		5/7/2004	DOCKET STATEMENT FILED. B-9309022	
=		5/7/2004	AFFIDAVIT OF INDIGENCY	
		5/7/2004	APPEAL - ON QUESTIONS OF LAW	
=		5/7/2004	NOTICE OF APPEAL FILED.	
		5/7/2004	NO DEPOSIT REQUIRED-POV.AFF. JOHN JOSEPH GIDEON	

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O'Neal Apx. Vol. IX Page 2

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO CRIMINAL DIVISION



STATE OF OHIO, c/o Hamilton County Prosecuting Attorney 230 East Ninth Street, Suite 7000 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202,

C040286

Plaintiff-Appellee,

APPEAL NO. ____

v.

TRIAL NO. B-939022

JAMES DERRICK O'NEAL, #325-132 Mansfield Correctional Institution 1350 North Main Street Mansfield, Ohio 44901-0788 **DEATH PENALTY CASE**

Defendant-Appellant.

NOTICE OF APPEAL OF JAMES DERRICK O'NEAL

Notice is hereby given that James Derrick O'Neal, Defendant-Appellant, hereby appeals to the Court of Appeals of Ohio, First Appellate District, Hamilton County, from the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Entry Dismissing Successive Petition Filed Pursuant to Atkins v. Virginia, and from the Entry Overruling Motion for Funding Mental Retardation Expert and Discovery, entered in this matter on April 7, 2004, copies of which are attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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	() P	COMP, PARTIES, SUMMONS CERT MAIL () SHERIFF () WAVE PROCESS SERVER () NONE KS FEESTIC
	SECU DEPO	RITY FOR COST

JOHN J. GIDEON (0008151) (Trial Attorney) 1093 South Fourth Street Columbus, Ohio 43206-2621 (614) 444-9906

1

and

MICHAEL W. KRUMHOLTZ (0009099)

(Co-Counsel)

Bieser, Greer & Landis, LLP 6 North Main Street, Suite 400 Dayton, Ohio 45402-1908 (937) 223-3277

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT-APPELLANT

MICHAEL K. ALLEN (0025214) Prosecuting Attorney

PHILIP R. CUMMINGS (0041497P) Assistant Prosecuting Attorney 230 East Ninth Street, Suite 4000 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-2174 (513) 946-3012

COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFF-APPELLEE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Notice of Appeal of James Derrick O'Neal was served on Philip R. Cummings, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Hamilton County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, 230 East Ninth Street, Suite 4000, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202, by regular U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on this day of May, 2004.

JOHN J. GIDEON (0008151) Counsel for Defendant-Appellant

o'neal.noticeofappeal-cpc-May2004

THE STATE OF OHIO, HAMILTON COUNTY

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Plaintiff-Responder

VS.

JAMES DERRICK O'NEAL

Defendant-Petitioner

Plaintiff-Responder

APR - 7 2004

APR - 7 2004

INDINGS OF FACT,

ONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND

PETITION FILED PURSUANT TO

ATKINS V. VIRGINIA

This motion came before the Court on the petition to vacate or set aside judgment filed pursuant to Atkins v. Virginia¹ and State v. Lott². The Court has reviewed the entire record in this matter, including any and all evidence relating to O'Neal's mental status that was produced at pretrial, trial, at the mitigation hearing, and submitted with his Atkins petition. The Court has also reviewed the State of Ohio's Memorandum in Opposition to the Petition, and O'Neal's Reply Memorandum.

Based upon the above, the Court makes the following Findings of Fact:

James O'Neal was indicted on December 16, 1993, by a Hamilton County Grand Jury.

The indictment charged O'Neal as follows:

Count 1 of the indictment charged O'Neal with purposely causing the death of Carol O'Neal during the commission of an aggravated burglary (R.C. 2903.01(A)). Count 1 also carried two death

¹ (2002), 122 S.Ct. 224

² (2002), 93 Ohio St.3d 303

penalty specifications: one alleged a course of conduct involving the purposeful attempt to kill two or more persons (R.C. 2929.04(A)(5)); and a second alleged murder during an aggravated burglary (R.C. 2929.04(A)(7)). Count 2 of the indictment charged O'Neal with purposely causing the death of Carol with prior calculation and design (R.C. 2903.01(B)). Count 2 also carried the same two death penalty specifications as count 1. O'Neal was also indicted on one count of attempted murder of Carol's son, Ricardo, (count 3) and one count of aggravated burglary (count 4). Each count in the indictment also carried a firearm specification.

The jury found O'Neal guilty of both counts of aggravated murder (counts 1 and 2), both aggravated burglary death penalty specifications, three of the firearm specifications, and the aggravated burglary charge (count 4). The jury found O'Neal not guilty of attempted murder (count 3) and the course-of-conduct death penalty specifications.

Following a penalty hearing, the jury recommended that O'Neal be sentenced to death on both aggravated murder counts. This court conducted an independent review of the evidence pursuant to R.C. 2929.03(F) and accepted the jury's recommendation and imposed the sentence of death. For the aggravated burglary charge (count 4) and firearm specifications, O'Neal was sentenced in accordance with the law. On appeal, the court of appeals affirmed.

The Ohio Supreme Court affirmed the judgment and the United States Supreme Court denied O'Neal's petition for Writ of Certiorari on May 21, 2001.

This Court denied O'Neal's initial post-conviction petition on February 17, 1998. This judgment was ultimately affirmed by the First District Court of Appeals. The Ohio Supreme Court denied jurisdiction on March 8, 2000.

Sentence based upon the United States Supreme Court's decision in Atkins v. Virginia³

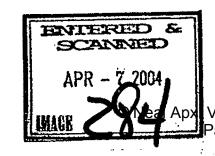
O'Neal is represented in this petition by John J. Gideon and Michael W. Krumholtz. O'Neal's sole ground for relief is that he is mentally retarded and, therefore, can not be executed under the United State's Supreme Court's ruling in Atkins v. Virginia⁴.

In support of his petition, O'Neal has submitted no material, affidavits or documentation. O'Neal refers to the trial record to support his claim.

O'Neal cites to the mitigation phase testimony of Dr. David Chiappone, a clinical psychologist, to support his claim. O'Neal notes that Dr. Chiappone said O'Neal "scored in what are called the border range of mental retardation." (T.p. 981) Dr. Chiappone testified that O'Neal suffered from "borderline mental retardation based on the IQ test and substantiated by his educational data". (T.p. 987) The doctor testified that O'Neal lacked coping skills.

O'Neal also cites to the mitigation phase testimony of Dr. Robert Tureen, a clinical neuropsychologist. Dr. Tureen, O'Neal notes, testified that O'Neal had "minimal cerebral dysfunction" and functioned "in the borderline to mildly retarded range". (T.p. 1002) Dr. Tureen also testified that O'Neal has limitations and difficulties adjusting to and coping with the world.

This Court has thoroughly reviewed the testimony of Dr. Chiappone and Dr. Tureen. The Court finds that Dr. Chiappone specifically testified that O'Neal is not retarded. (T.p. 981, 992) Dr. Chiappone testified that O'Neal functions much higher than his attained IQ and when O'Neal wants to, he can work - and work well. The doctor noted that O'Neal's work record is a reflection of this.



³ (2002) 122 S.Ct. 2242

supra

(T.p. 992) The Court finds that O'Neal worked at Aerotek for consecutive years earning "employee of the month" honors in January 1991. O'Neal also worked at the Kenwood County Club earning a reputation as a solid worker with a strong work ethic. (T.p. 959)

The Court finds Dr. Tureen's testimony consistent with these facts. Dr. Tureen testified that while O'Neal has a mild cerebral problem (T.p. 1001), O'Neal is capable of performing well in rote tasks. (T.p. 1004) Dr. Tureen noted that O'Neal is in the borderline range of mild mental retardation - in the 70-72 range. (T.p. 1009)

The Court finds that O'Neal worked various jobs in an effort to provide for his family and keep his family together. (T.p. 921-925, 934-935)

The Court finds that the Ohio Supreme Court specifically acknowledged that O'Neal (after years of selling drugs) attempted to turn his life around, become a responsible citizen and take custody of his children. The Ohio Supreme-Court acknowledged that O'Neal encouraged his children to get an education and he attempted legitimate, steady employment after prison.

The Court finds that the Ohio Supreme Court specifically noted that O'Neal is not mentally retarded.

The Court finds that there is no evidence that O'Neal is unable to function or care for himself.

In State v. Lott⁵, the Ohio Supreme Court set forth the standards and procedural guidelines for determining whether convicted petitioners facing the death penalty are mentally retarded. Clinical definitions of mental retardation provide a standard for evaluating an individual's claim of mental retardation. These definitions require (1) significantly sub-average intellectual functioning;

⁵ 97 Ohio St.3d 303, 2002-Ohio-6625, 779 N.E.2d 1011

(2) significant limitations in two or more adaptive skills, such as communication, self-care, and selfdirection; and (3) onset before the age of 18. There is a rebuttable presumption that a defendant is not mentally retarded if his of her IQ is above 70.

Based upon the above findings of fact and standard of law, the Court makes the following Conclusions of Law:

- (1) There is a rebuttable presumption that James O'Neal is not mentally retarded;
- James O'Neal does not suffer from significantly sub-average (2) intellectual functioning;
- (3) James O'Neal does not suffer from significant limitations with respect to his adaptive skills, such as communication, self-care and self-direction.
- (4) James O'Neal is capable of functioning as a normal person and was able to do so before age 18;
- (5) James O'Neal has not met the minimum threshold standards for demonstrating mental retardation and, thus, is not entitled to an evidentiary hearing on this issue.

Based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, the Court hereby denies James O'Neal's first successive petition to vacate or set aside judgment filed pursuant to Atkins v. Virginia⁶

⁶ supra.

James O'Neal's request for an evidentiary hearing is denied. Further, all requests for discovery and appointment of experts is hereby denied.

> Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas ENTER APR - 72004 -

> > MARK R SCHWEIKERT

Counsel:

Philip R. Cummings (0041497P) Assistant Prosecuting Attorney 230 E. Ninth Street, Suite 4000 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 (513) 946-3012

John J. Gideon (0008151) (Trial Attorney) 1093 South Fourth Street Columbus, Ohio 43206-2621 (614) 444-9906

and

Michael W. Krumholtz (0009099) (Co-Counsel) Bieser, Greer & Landis LLP 6 North Main Street, Suite 400 Dayton, Ohio 45402-1908 (937) 223-3277

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THE STATE OF OHIO, HAMILTON COUNTY

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

CRIMINAL DIVISION

STATE OF OHIO

NO. B-939022

Plaintiff-Respondent

(Judge Schweikert)

VS.

ENTRY OVERRULING MOTION

FOR FUNDING MENTAL

JAMES DERRICK O'NEAL

RETARDATION EXPERT AND

DISCOVERY

Defendant-Petitioner

The Court hereby overrules defendant's motion for funding a mental retardation expert,

ENTERED

SCANNED

and for additional discovery.

Jadge Mark Schweikert

Common Pleas Hamilton County Court of

Counsel:

ENTER APR - 72004

Philip R. Cummings (0041497P) Assistant Prosecuting Attorney 230 E. Ninth Street, Suite 4000

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 (513) 946-3012

John J. Gideon (0008151) (Trial Attorney) 1093 South Fourth Street Columbus, Ohio 43206-2621 (614) 444-9906

and

Michael W. Krumholtz (0009099) (Co-Counsel) Bieser, Greer & Landis LLP 6 North Main Street, Suite 400 Dayton, Ohio 45402-1908 (937) 223-3277

MARK R SCHWEIKERD

COURT OF COMM HON, MARK B

THE CLERK SHALL SERVE NOTICE TO PARTIES PURSUANT TO CIVIL RULE 58 WHICH SHALL BE TAXED AS COSTS HEREIN.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO CRIMINAL DIVISION



STATE OF OHIO,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

C040286

٧.

CP CASE NO. B-939022

CA CASE NO.

DEATH PENALTY CASE

JAMES DERRICK O'NEAL,

Defendant-Appellant.

COURT OF APPEALS

AFFIDAVIT OF INDIGENCY

MAY 0 7 2004

STATE OF OHIO ss: GREGORY HARTMANN

COUNTY OF RICHLAND

- I, James Derrick O'Neal, being first duly cautioned and sworn, state the following
 - 1. I am the Defendant-Appellant in the above-captioned case;
 - 2. I am incarcerated on death row at the Mansfield Correctional Institution 3. I presently have no means of financial support and no assets of any value;
 - 4. Because of my poverty I am unable to prepay the fees, costs, or give security therefor;
 - 5. I believe that I am entitled to relief and this action is brought in good faith.
 - 6. I am requesting, pursuant to Rule 1 of the Local Rules of the First Appellate Judicial District, that the filing fee and security deposit, if applicable, be waived.

All of the foregoing is true to the best of my personal knowledge, information, and belief.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

JAMES DERRICK O'NEAL Affiant

SWORN to before me and subscribed in my presence this _______ day of May, 2004, by James Derrick O'Neal, prisoner number 325-132.

NOTARY PUBLIC

JOHN J. GIDEON
ATTORNEY AT LAW
NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF OHIO
MY COMMISSION HAS NO EXPIRATION DATE
SECTION 147.03 R.C.

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http://www.hamilton-co.org/appealscourt/Forms/crimdocket1.htm5/6/2004

Criminal Docker Statemen 90357-MRB-	MRM Document 40	-4 Filed 06/22/2007	Page 15 of 17Page 1 of 1
State of Chio v. James Derrick O'Neal			
14. Nature of the Appeal			
Please Check all That Apply and Be Specific	<u>-</u>		
() Arson (() Assault () DUI) Kidnapping	() Sex Offe	nse fense
() Attempt (X) Murder	() Traffic O	ffense
() Automobile Offense () Burglary (X) Death Penalty) Post Conviction	() Weapons	Offense
() Complicity, Conspiracy () Probation	()Other:	
() Drug Offense () Robbery		
15. Probable Issues for Review: () Counsel was Recently Appointed and is Normal Properties of the Probable Issues for Review: () Counsel was Recently Appointed and is Normal Properties of the Probable Issues for Review:	ot Yet Able to Identify Probal	ole Issue(s) For Review.	
Please Check All That Apply and Provide Sp	ecific Information Whenever	Space is Provided:	
() Allied Offenses ()Prosecutor Search and	Trial Matte	rs
(X) Constitutional Law <u>Mental retardation</u> and death penalty(Seizure	() Evidence	
() Counsel - Effective () Arrest) Miranda	() Expert W () Jury Instr	
) Warrant	Witnesses	440000
() Crim. R. 11 () Expungement (Other:	() Other: () Weight o	f Evidonos
() ID/Photos) Speedy Trial	()Other:	I Evidence
() Indictment/Complaint () Lesser Included Offenses) Sufficient Evidence/Crin	i. R.29	
	(X) Denial of evidentiary (X) Denial of appointment	nearing of mental retardation expe	note
() Probation	(X) Denial of additional of	liscovery	ill
() Frobation		•	
16. Cases and/or Statutes to be Discussed:			
Atkins v. Virginia, 122 S.Ct. 2242, 15 State v. Lott, 93 Chio St. 3d 303 (200 R.C. 2953.21 and R.C. 2953.23	53 L.Fd. 2d 335 (2002))2)		
12 Coutificate of Co.		,	
17. Certificate of Service I certify that I have mailed or otherwise deliver	ed a conv of this thicket states	nent to all council of many and	Alexandra (C
	A. S. A. S. A.	dent to an counsel of fecord or	ine parties if unrepresented.
Date: 51604 Signature:	m laun	(0008151)	
			O'Neal Apx. Vol. IX
•			Page 15
http://www.hamilton-co.org/appealscour	t/Forms/crimdocket2.htm	15/6/2004	

COURT OF APPEALS

Judges: Rupert A. Doan Lee H. Hildebrandt, Jr. Robert H. Gorman Mark Philip Painter J. Howard Sundermann, Jr. Ralph Winkler

FIRST APPELLATE DISTRICT OF OHIO

William Howard Taft Law Center 12th Floor, 230 East Ninth Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-2138 Thomas J. Rottinghaus Court Administrator

Daniel S. Jenkins Assistant Administrator

(513) 946-3500 Fax: (513) 946-3411

STATE OF OHIO,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

VS.

JAMES DERRICK O'NEAL,

Defendant-Appellant.

APPEAL NO. C-040286 TRIAL NO. B-939022

D59187603

REGULAR CALENDAR SCHEDULING ORDER

Having reviewed the notice of appeal and the docket statement filed herein, it is the Order of this court that this cause be placed on the court's regular calendar.

It is Ordered that the complete record of this action be filed on or before 06/29/2004. (See paragraphs one and two of the enclosed.)

The appellant's brief shall be filed on or before <u>08/12/2004</u>. The appellee's brief shall be filed on or before <u>09/28/2004</u>. (See paragraph four of the enclosed.)

Counsel who wish to submit the appeal to the Court without oral argument should submit a written request to the Court at least three working days prior to the hearing.

NOTE: Enclosed with this Order are several admonitions. These admonitions should be reviewed.

To The Clerk:

Enter upon the Journal of the Court on May 20, 2004 per order of the Court.

By: Kneph Winkle (Copy sent to counsel)

Presiding Judge mm

MAY 2 0 2004 IMAGE 250'Neal Apx. Vol. IX Page 16

TODAY'S (DASE: 1:6224\/2) IMAGE DATE: 5/10/2	004 - 5/24/2004	COMMENTALE ALERK HECOGY I COMMON PLEAS DIVISION JUDGMENT SENT BY ORDINAR	PAGE 44
CASE NO. JUDGE	PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT	SENT NOTICE TO
C 0400286 31	STATE OF OHIO	JAMES DERRICK ONEAL	JOHN JOSEPH GIDEON 1093 SOUTH FOURTH STREET COLUMBUS OH 43206-2621
C 0400286 31	STATE OF OHIO	JAMES DERRICK ONEAL	HAMILTON COUNTY PROSECUTOR 230 E NINTH ST, ROOM 7000

COURT OF APPEALS

MAY 2 4 2004

GREGORY HARTMANN CLERK OF COURTS HAMILTON COUNTY

